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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) Nine.

" (b) Seventeen thousand and forty-eight applications up to the 30th November 1954."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, this question involves a vital issue. Hence, I request that a half-hour debate on this subject may be allowed."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I shall look into the matter and see whether a half-hour debate is necessary or not."

Stake-net fishing.

* 844 Q.—SRI M. CHADAYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Harijan applicants for licences for stake-nets ;

(b) the number of licences issued to Harijans in Chirakkal taluk on 12th and 13th October 1954;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received from the public against the distribution of licences issued on those dates specially from Harijans; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Seventeen.

" (b) One.

" (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (d) An enquiry was conducted and the report of the enquiry is under consideration of the Government."

SRI S. DAIVASIKHAMONEY :—" I suppose the place where they fish is the sea or the backwaters of the sea. This place being common to all and especially when persons go there to earn their livelihood, why should licence fees be collected from them? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Fees are collected and licences are insisted upon in order to regulate the traffic."

Kottapadi-Kundakadavu road.

* 845 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member Sri N. Gopala Menon who gave notice of the question is not in his seat, the answer together with the question will be printed in the official proceedings."

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SRI N. GOPALA MENON : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) with reference to the answer to question No. 1165 given on 28th July 1953, whether the construction of the Kottapadi-Kundakadavu road in Ponnani taluk was taken up last year;

(*b*) if so, the extent of the work executed and the amount spent so far; and

(*c*) whether the unexecuted portion of the road construction will be completed this year?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) The work of forming the portion of the road from miles 10 to 14 was taken up in February last year as an unemployment relief measure and completed at a cost of Rs. 10,000. The work was stopped at that stage as distress conditions in that area had improved. The work of forming and gravelling the road has been included in the list of works sent to the Government of India for approval under the Special Grants-in-aid Scheme. If the Government of India approve the work it will be completed as early as possible."

Periya Avudaiperi tank in Sivagiri.

* 846 *Q.*—SRI P. VENKATESHA SHOLAGAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any estimate has been prepared to repair the " Periya Avudaiperi " tank in Sivagiri village, Tirunelveli district; and

(*b*) if so, the estimated amount and the probable date of completion of the repairs?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) The hon. Member probably refers to Peria Avudaiperi tank. An estimate has been prepared and sanctioned by the Executive Engineer (Food Production), Madurai, for carrying out certain repairs to the tank under the Special Minor Irrigation Programme.

" (*b*) The sanctioned estimate for the work is Rs. 10,300 for works or Rs. 13,340 inclusive of direct and indirect charges. The work is likely to be taken up for execution by the Food Production Engineering staff in February 1955."

SRI P. VENKATESHA SHOLAGAR :—" சிவகிரி கிராமத்திலுள்ள பெரிய ஆவுடைப்பேரி மராமத்து செய்வதை மிக அதிகமான விவசாயிகள் எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். நீண்ட காலமாக அவர்கள் சர்க்காருக்குப் பல மகஜர்கள் எழுதிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் சீக்கிரமாக நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க முன்வருவார்களா "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" இவ்வேலை இதே பிப்ரவரி மாதத்திலேயே துவங்கப்படும் என்று நான் இப்பொழுதுதானே பதில் சொன்னேன்."